

OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

Harvest of the Cornfields.

All around the happy village
Stood the maize-fields, green and
shining,
Waved the green plumes of Mondamin,
Waved his soft and sunny tresses,
Filling all the land with plenty.

* * * * *
And the maize-field grew and
ripened,
Till it stood in all the splendor,
Of its garments green and yellow,
Of its tassels and its plumage,
And the maize-ears full and shining
Gleamed from bursting sheaths of
verdure.

Then Nokomis, the old woman,
Spake and said to Minnehaha:
"Tis the moon when leaves are fall-
ing;
All the wild-rice has been gathered,
And the maize is ripe and ready;
Let us gather in the harvest,
Let us wrestle with Mondamin,
Strip him of his plumes and tassels,
Of his garments green and yellow!"

And the merry Laughing Water
Went rejoicing from the wigwam,
With Nokomis, old and wrinkled,
And they called the women round
them,
Called the young men and the
maidens,
To the harvest of the corn-fields,
To the husking of the maize-ear.

On the border of the forest,
Underneath the fragrant pine-trees,
Sat the old men and the warriors
In uninterrupted silence
Looked they at the gamesome labor
Of the young men and the women;
Listened to their noisy talking,
To their laughter and their sing-
ing,
Heard them chattering like the mag-
pies,
Heard them laughing like the blue-
jays,
Heard them singing like the robins.

And when'er some lucky maiden
Found a red ear in the husking,
Found a maize-ear red as blood is,
"Nushka!" cried they all together,
"Nushka! you shall have a sweet-
heart,
You shall have a handsome hus-
band!"
"Ugh!" the old men responded
From their seats beneath the pine-
trees.

And when'er a youth or maiden
Found a crooked ear in husking,
Blighted, mildewed or misshapen,
Then they laughed and sang to-
gether,
Crept and limped about the corn-
fields,
Mimicked in their gait and gestures
Some old man, bent almost double,
Singing singly or together:
"Wagemin, the thief of cornfields
Paimosaid, who steals the maize-
ear!"

Till the cornfields rang with
laughter,
Till from Hiawatha's wigwam
Kahgahgee, the King of Ravens,
Screamed and quivered in his anger,
And from all the neighboring tree-
tops
Cawed and croaked the black ma-
rauders,
"Ugh!" the old men all responded,
From their seats beneath the pine-
trees.

—Henry W. Longfellow.

Fashion wears out more apparel
than the man.—Shakespeare.

Table Manners for Young Folks.

In talking at the table, if the company is large, you will usually converse more with your neighbor than with the circle as a whole. But at home and in the family, or at the house of an intimate friend, you must do your share of the entertainment. Save up the bright little story and the witty speech, the funny sayings of a child, the scrap of news in your Aunt Mary's last letter, and when a good opportunity offers add your mite to the general fund of amusement.

There are dear old gentlemen—and old ladies too—who have favorite stories which they are rather fond of telling. People in their own families, or among their very intimate acquaintances hear these stories more than once; indeed, they sometimes hear them until they become very familiar. Good manners forbid any showing of this—any look of impatience or appearance of boredom on the part of the listener. The really well-bred woman or girl listens to the thrice-told tale, the well-worn anecdote, says a pleasant word, smiles, forgets that she has heard it before, and does not allow the raconteur to fancy that the story is being brought out too often. Good manners at the table are inflexible on this point. You must appear pleased. You must give pleasure to others. You must make up your mind to receive gratification by imparting it.

Once in a while an accident happens at a meal—a cup is overturned; some unhappy person swallows "the wrong way;" somebody makes a mistake. Look at your plate at such a moment, and nowhere else, unless you can sufficiently control your face and appear entirely unconscious that anything has occurred out of the usual routine. Take no notice, and go on with the conversation, and in a second the incident will have been forgotten by every one.—Harper's Round Table.

"The Spitting Habit."

In our youth we were much offend-
ed at the satire of Dickens in "Mar-
tin Chuzzlewit" concerning the to-
bacco-chewing and expectorating
habit of American men. But of late
we are beginning to wish some apos-
tle of cleanliness would take up the
crusade again. The condition of
the sidewalks, street cars, public of-
fices, and railway coaches in many
parts of the South is simply dis-
graceful. And the chewers of to-
bacco are not the only offenders. The
spitting habit seems to be epidemic
among us.

After the spitting habit the next
in offensiveness is the chewing habit,
especially the habit of chewing gum.
We often wonder if young people,
young ladies especially, know how
much they prejudice their own ap-
pearance in the eyes of strangers by
laboriously masticating on the
street, on the train, behind the coun-
ter, everywhere, a mouthful of oily
stuff of doubtful cleanliness and ut-
terly unfit for food. So much work-
ing of the jaw gives the impression
of a feeble brain.—Nashville Advo-
cate.

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